



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/634,390	08/05/2003	Michiharu Motonishi	9281-4619	6535

7590 06/13/2005
Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione
P.O. Box 10395
Chicago, IL 60610

EXAMINER

BLOUIN, MARK S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2653

DATE MAILED: 06/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/634,390	Applicant(s) MOTONISHI ET AL.	
	Examiner Mark Blouin	Art Unit 2653	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7-10 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 8/5/03 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/5/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

Art Unit: 2653

Detailed Action

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Claims 1-6 in the reply filed on May 13, 2005 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Horie et al (USPN 6275459).
4. Regarding Claim 1, Horie et al shows (Figs. 1-3) a magnetic head assembly comprising a flexible flexure (22) comprising a slider (17) fixed thereto and having an electro-magnetic conversion element integrally therewith, and a load beam (21) for mounting the flexure, wherein the flexure comprises a junction piece (59) protruded from an edge of the flexure for joining the load beam and a main flexure in that the junction piece is detached from the load beam by an external force pulling the flexure in the leading end direction in a state that the junction piece is joined to the load beam.
5. Regarding Claim 2, Horie et al shows (Figs. 1-3) an assembly further comprising

Art Unit: 2653

a sub-flexure (25), wherein the sub-flexure is joined (26) to the load beam with the main flexure detached therefrom at a position different from that of the junction piece.

6. Regarding Claim 3, Horie et al shows (Figs. 1-3) a magnetic head assembly comprising a flexible flexure (22) comprising a slider (17) fixed thereto and having an electro-magnetic conversion element integrally therewith, and a load beam for mounting the flexure, a magnetic head assembly comprising a flexible flexure comprising a slider fixed thereto and having an electro-magnetic conversion element integrally therewith, and a load beam (21) for mounting the flexure having a cleavage part (split in 29) that is cleaved upon exertion of an external force pulling the flexure in the leading end direction in a state that the junction piece is joined to the load beam.

7. Regarding Claims 4, Horie et al shows (Figs. 1-3) an assembly, wherein the sub-flexure (25) is joined to the load beam (21), in which the main flexure is cleaved (split between 22 and 25) at the cleavage part of the junction piece and has the remained junction piece, at a position different from that of the junction piece of the main flexure.

8. Regarding Claims 5, Horie et al shows (Figs. 1-3) an assembly, wherein the main flexure (22) comprises a flexible printed circuit board (47) for connecting between a terminal of the electro-magnetic conversion element of the slider and an electronic component to be mounted, and the flexible printed circuit board is fixed to the load beam, and wherein when the main flexure is removed from the load beam in a state that the flexible printed circuit board is fixed, a portion between the load beam and the main flexure is cleaved.

9. Regarding Claims 6, Horie et al shows (Figs. 1-3) an assembly, wherein the sub-flexure (25) comprises a flexible printed circuit (47) board for connecting between a terminal of

Art Unit: 2653

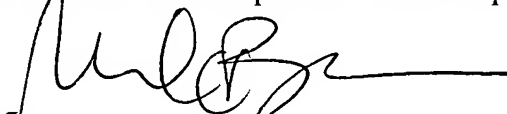
conversion element of the slider the electro-magnetic and a conduction pattern corresponding to the flexible printed circuit board remained in the load beam.

Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Blouin whose telephone number is (571) 272-7583. The examiner can normally be reached M-F, 6:00 am – 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached at (571) 272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9314 for regular and After Final communications.

Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



Mark Blouin
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2653
June 8, 2005

A. J. HEINZ
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP ~~2653~~ A. U. 2653

